PARKING and TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONFERENCE ROOM A

CITY HALL, MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 1 JUNKINS AVENUE

Members of the public also had the option to join the meeting over Zoom

8:30 AM **November 3rd, 2022**

MINUTES

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andrew Bagley called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Members Present:
Chairman Andrew Bagley
Steve Pesci
Erica Wygonik (Alternate)
Public Works Director Peter Rice
City Manager Karen Conard
Deputy Police Chief Mike Maloney
Harold Whitehouse
Mary Lou McElwain
Mark Syracusa
Fire Chief William McQuillen

City Staff Present:
Parking Director Ben Fletcher
City Engineer – Parking, Transportation and Planning Eric Eby
Associate Engineer Tyler Reese

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

[00:05:15] Karen Conard moved to accept the Financial Report dated September 30th, 2022, and place it on file, seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)

This is the time for all comments on any of the agenda items or non-agenda items.

[00:05:50] There were five speakers: John Tabor, Doug Roberts, Matthew Glenn, Ann Cummings, and Peter Wissel (Z) all spoke regarding bicyclist concerns.

[00:19:53] Peter Rice requested to comment on the bicyclists' Sagamore Avenue Concerns.

V. PRESENTATIONS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

(No public comment during Committee discussion without Committee approval.)

B. [00:21:47] Karen Conard moved to suspend the rules to take up item B on the agenda first, seconded by Peter Rice. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote 9-0.**

Sagamore Avenue, request to extend bike lanes from Little Harbor Road to Rye Line, by Seacoast Area Bicycle Riders. Peter Rice moved to refer to staff for evaluation and report back at a future meeting, seconded by Karen Conard. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote 9-0.**

Discussion ensued regarding the City's current plans for Sagamore Avenue, and regarding the portion of the road that is state owned.

There was also discussion regarding the name of the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee, clarifying that the interests of pedestrians and bicyclists are included. A bicycle and pedestrian working group was suggested.

[00:37:20] Peter Rice moved to allow comment out of order, so that Matthew Glenn could comment. Seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote 9-0.**

A. [00:38:52] Broad Street, request to move no parking signage further back from South Street, by resident. Karen Conard moved to relocate NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER signs 30 feet from crosswalk on the north side of South Street, seconded by Harold Whitehouse. Motion was amended by Mary Lou McElwain to relocate NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER signs 30 feet from crosswalk on both sides of Broad Street north of South Street and to monitor conditions to see if further changes needed, seconded by Peter Rice. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote 9-0.**

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. [00:46:33] Maplewood Avenue at Prospect Street, report back on request to slow traffic on Maplewood Avenue. Karen Conard moved to place item on file, seconded by Peter Rice. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

B. [00:49:14] Mariette Drive, speed analysis. Karen Conard moved to place item on file, seconded by Peter Rice. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

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C. [00:50:02] Maple Haven stop sign analysis. Karen Conard moved to approve installation of stop sign on northbound leg of Suzanne Drive, at intersection of Suzanne Drive and Simonds Road, near park. Seconded by Peter Rice. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.**

VIII. INFORMATIONAL

A. [00:52:53] Monthly Accident Report from Police.

Deputy Police Chief Mike Maloney commented that there were 77 crashes in September. Of that, 48 of them were reportable. There were no accidents involving bicycles or pedestrians.

Mary Lou McElwain inquired as to how the police are addressing distracted driving.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

A. [00:56:03] Mark Syracusa suggested the City put out reminder messaging on Jessica's Law, which legally requires drivers to clear snow and ice off their cars before getting on the road.

B. [00:58:45] Steve Pesci spoke about vehicle passing of mopeds and bicycles at above the posted speed.

C. [01:00:02] Mary Lou McElwain wanted it noted that there are three intersections on Maplewood at Congress, Hanover, Deer that are not safe for pedestrians.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Karen Conard moved to adjourn at 9:30 a.m., seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

There will be no Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Meeting in December. The next meeting will be on January 5th, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Leila Birr,
Administrative Assistant, Department of Public Works

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